

Highland Local School District - Regular Meeting

Highland Local School District Board of Education

Middle School Robotics Room
Wednesday, November 13, 2024
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Present: Nate Huffman, Superintendent; John Messmer, Board President; Bill Short, Board Vice President; Eric Thacker, Board Member; Burgess Castle, Board Member; Kathy Belcher, Board Member; Jessika Roberts, Assistant Treasurer; Jason Fleming; Board Member, Board Member

1 Call to Order

President

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

Attachments:

2 Pledge of Allegiance

President

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attachments:

3 Roll Call

President

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Minutes:

Mr. Messmer called roll. Mr. Castle was absent. All other members present.

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

Approve Minutes

4 Resolution to approve the minutes for the October 9, 2024 Work Session and Regular Board of Education Meeting as presented

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-240 Approve Minutes

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

[00.09 Work Session 09.09.2024.pdf](#)

[00.09 Regular Meeting 09.09.2024.pdf](#)

5 Approve Financial Statements

Mr. Fleming

Resolution to approve the October 2024 Financial Statements as presented.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-241 Approve Financial Statements

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

6 Public Participation

Community

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient manner,

a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting. Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 30 minutes has elapsed. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity. Persons desiring more time should follow procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board present and voting.

Minutes:

Ms. Drake addressed the board about netting at Highland Community Park.

Attachments:

7 Accept Retirement Letters From Personnel

Resolution to approve the retirement of the following personnel

Dianne Knight ES Aide

Mary Cochran HS Aide

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-242 Accept Retirement Letters From Personnel

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

8 Approve the Resignation of Classified Personnel

Resolution to approve the following classified resignation

Riley DeWart ES Aide

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-243 Approve the Resignation of Classified Personnel

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Bill Short

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
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John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

9 Approve FMLA Request

Resolution to approve the following FMLA request

Tristen Beltz Approximately 1-9-25 to 3-14-25

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-244 Approve FMLA Request

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

10 Approve Certified NJROTC Subs

Resolution to approve the following certified NJROTC subs on an as needed basis with superintendent approval at the daily sub rate.

Senior Chief Louis D'Hondt

Major Paul Kunkle

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-245 Approve Certified NJROTC Subs

Motioned: Kathy Belcher

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

11 Approve Volunteer

Resolution to approve the following volunteer

Tori Simms HS Cheer Volunteer

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-246 Approve Volunteer

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

12 Approve Classified Contracts for 1 Year

Resolution to approve the following classified contracts for one year.

Kristina Ferenbaugh ES EA1 (step 0; effective 10-28-24)

Christina Squires ES EA1 (step 0)

Sophia Hinkle ES EA1 (step 0; effective 11-4-24)

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-247 Approve Classified Contracts for 1 Year

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
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John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

13 Approve Individual Agreements

Resolution to approve the individual agreements between Specialized Education of Ohio, Inc. who owns High Road School of Bucyrus and Highland Local Schools; effective 11/4/2024.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-248 Approve Individual Agreements

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Bill Short

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

14 Approve First Reading of the 2025-2026 School Calendar

Resolution to approve the first reading of the 2025-2026 school calendar.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-249 Approve First Reading of the 2025-2026 School Calendar

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		

Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		
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Attachments:

15 Approve First Reading of Board Policy Changes

Resolution to approve the first reading of the following board policy changes.

PO 0100 Revised Definitions

PO 0142.1 Revised Oath

PO 0151 Revised Organizational Meeting

PO 0152 Revised Officers

PO 0163 Technical Correction Presiding Officer

PO 0164 Notice of Meetings

PO 0165 October 2024 New Board Meetings

PO 0165.1 Rescind Regular Meetings

PO 0165.2 Rescind Special Meetings

PO 0166 New Agendas

PO 0167.2 October 2024 Renumbered Executive Session

PO 0173 Rescind Board Officers

PO 2264 Title IX New Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex In Education Programs or Activities

PO 2266 Copy of Nondiscrimination of the Bases of Sex In Education Programs or Activities

PO 3432 Copy of Sick Leave

PO 4120.08 Employment of personnel for co-curricular/extra-curricular activities

PO 4121 Copy of Criminal History Record Check

PO 5131 Revised Student Transfers

PO 5136.01 Electronic Equipment

PO 5200 Attendance

PO 5500 Revised Student Conduct

PO 5700 Revised Parent/Student Rights

PO 6220 Revised Budget Preparation

PO 6320 Purchasing and Bidding

PO 6460 Vendor Relations

PO 6530 Payment of Accrued, Unused Vacation Leave

PO 7530.02 Revised Staff Use of Personal Communication Devices

PO 7540.03 Revised Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety

PO 7540.04 Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety

PO 7540.09 New Artificial Intelligence (AI)

PO 8310 Copy of Public Records

PO 8510 Wellness

PO 9160 Copy of Public Attendance at School Events

PO 1130/3113/4113 Conflict of Interest

PO 6110 Grant Funds

PO 6111 Internal Controls

PO 6112 Cash Management of Grants
PO 6114 Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds
PO 6325 Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds
PO 6550 Travel Payment & Reimbursement/Relocation Costs
PO 7310 Disposition of Surplus Property
PO 7450 Property Inventory

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-250 Approve First Reading of Board Policy Changes

Motioned: Kathy Belcher

Seconded: Bill Short

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

16 Approve Trip Request

Resolution to approve the Baseball team to travel to Myrtle Beach, SC from March 22 - 26.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-251 Approve Trip Request

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

17 Stall the Teacher

Resolution to approve the donation of funds through Stall the Teacher to be used for a district donation, in the amount donated, to Nanze to help dig wells and supply water.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-252 Stall the Teacher

Motioned: Bill Short

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

18 HS Gym Floor

Resolution to approve The Ohio Floor Company HS gymnasium floor refinish proposal.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-253 HS Gym Floor

Motioned: Bill Short

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

19 Accept Donation

Resolution to accept a \$50,000 from the Boosters.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-254 Accept Donation

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Bill Short

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

20 Purpose and Budget Clauses

Resolution to approve the following Purpose and Budget Clauses for SY2024-2025

- MS Robotics
- Class of 2025
- Purple Star - Military

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-255 Purpose and Budget Clauses

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: Kathy Belcher

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

21 2025 Dental and Vision

Resolution to approve the attached dental insurance carrier/premiums (Cigna) and vision insurance carrier/premiums (extend VSP for another year) for calendar year 2025 with board and employee % contributions to remain at the % contribution rates utilized for calendar year 2024.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-256 2025 Dental and Vision

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

22 Five Year Forecast

Resolution to approve the November Five Year Forecast as presented.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-257 Five Year Forecast

Motioned: Bill Short

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

23 Move from Regular to Executive Session

WHEREAS, as a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of a quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

1. To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual.
2. To consider the purchase of property for public purposes or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.
3. Conferences with an attorney for the board of education concerning disputes involving the board of education that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
4. Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.
5. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.
6. Specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoiding prosecution for a violation of the law.

Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Highland Local Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this

meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on item(s) as listed above.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Minutes:

The Board entered into executive session for reasons #1 and #2 above at 6:46 pm.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-258 Executive Session

Motioned: John Messmer

Seconded: Eric Thacker

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		
Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments:

24 Regular Session Reconvened

Minutes:

Regular session reconvened at 8:07 pm.

Attachments:

25 Adjourn this Meeting and Confirm Next Meeting Date

Resolution to adjourn this meeting and schedule the next meeting of the Highland Local School District Board of Education to be held Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the middle school robotics room.

Roll Call: Kathy Belcher___ Burgess Castle___ John Messmer___ William Short___ Eric Thacker___

Minutes:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 24-11-259 Adjournment

Motioned: Eric Thacker

Seconded: John Messmer

Voter	Yes	No	Abstaining
John Messmer, Board President	X		
Bill Short, Board Vice President	X		

Eric Thacker, Board Member	X		
Kathy Belcher, Board Member	X		

Attachments: